

"After landing on Utah Beach the 8th Army division fought their way inland to France. There in St.-LoFrance, then 1st Sergeant Kelly was wounded in action and was awarded his first of two bronze stars for gallantry. He also received his first Purple heart for being wounded in action. As soon as he was able he rejoined his outfit and continued fighting into Germany until the Germans surrendered.

"By this time Sgt. Kelly had made the decision to enlist in the military for a career and was a full time military personnel.

"When the Korean Conflict began Sgt. Kelly was immediately sent to Korea. (How President Harry Truman could call it a conflict when over 50,000 American soldiers were killed is beyond me). It was a terrible war, often fought in hand-to-hand combat in temperatures of 20 degrees below zero, fighting against not only North Koreans but Chinese as well.

"After distinguishing himself on the battlefield as being a leader of men, Sgt. Kelly was awarded a battlefield commission to 2nd Lieutenant. Soon after he was again wounded in action.

"After recuperating from wounds, Lt. Kelly returned to active duty and soon after was involved in a battle involving an artillery unit that had been ambushed and was trying to retreat. According to records, intense enemy fire was preventing the withdrawal of the field artillery battalion.

"Lt Kelly reconnoitered the enemy positions and organized the artillerymen into fighting groups. With complete disregard for his personal safety, Lt. Kelly repeated aggressive actions, wiping out enemy forces and weapons. Besides instilling confidence in the artillerymen, his conspicuous actions served to center the fire of the enemy on himself. Although enemy fire became more intense and deadly, Lt. Kelly continued to expose himself in leading the assaults. Finally he was struck by enemy fire and fell mortally wounded.

"Before he died he told a friend to tell his wife and children that he loved them very much and would see them in heaven someday. He received the Silver Star Award posthumously.

"Lt Kelly was in service for eleven years. He received three Purple Heart Medals, three Bronze Star Medals and the Silver Star medal, as well as the many service medals awarded by the United States Army, during the period of time served.

"I feel my father is a forgotten Hero from Butts County. From all the records I can find, he was the most decorated soldier from Butts County. He was also the only military man and officer to serve in both World War II and the Korean Conflict who was killed in action. He received a battlefield commission from 1st Sgt. to 2nd Lieutenant. Our family also received a letter of condolence from General Douglas MacArthur (which we still have).

"To me this is not a bad resume for a young man from Pepperton Cottonmill Village who started out in the Jackson National Guard and died a hero at the ripe old age of 32.

"I believe that every young man and woman from Butts County who gave their life in defense of their country are heroes and should be recognized. In a time when roads, highways and buildings, are named after people at the drop of a hat, none of these young heroes even have a small plaque on a park bench in Butts County. Even on Veterans Day and/or Memorial Day their names are only brought up by family members. I feel that other counties in Georgia are way ahead of Butts County in this matter.

"Very Sincerely, Cary V. Kelly"

Carl Kelly is not the only hero in the family. His wife, Edna is a hero to many of her friends.

At the time Carl was killed she had three young sons, Cary, Tim and Pat. All three served in the military. Tim was killed in a motorcycle accident in California after being discharged and on the way home. Pat was a disabled Vietnam Combat Veteran and was killed a couple of years ago in a truck accident.

A few years after Carl's death, Edna married Ed Daniel, another Veteran and they had two sons, Chip and Joe. Both sons are now veterans, too. Ed passed away a few years ago after an extended illness.

When asked how she had handled so much tragedy and could still have a smile and her special laugh, she pointed upward, and said she had a lot of help from above.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO: J. THOMAS GILMORE

SPEECH OF

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2003*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today in order recognize Dr. J. Thomas Gilmore of Alamosa Colorado. Over the last seven years Dr. Gilmore has served as president of Adams State College in Alamosa, during which the college has experienced a period of dramatic growth and development.

Dr. Gilmore, a native of the San Luis Valley, received his bachelor's and master's degrees in 1967 and 1968, from Adams State College. In 1973, Tom became a member of the College's faculty in the School of Business and later earned his Ph.D. from Colorado State University in Economics. Dr. Gilmore served as the School of Business's Dean from 1983 until 1993, during which time, he guided the school to receiving the first of Adam State's four Excellence in Education Awards. In 1993, he was named Vice President for External Affairs, and within that same year he became the Vice President for Administration. No sooner did Tom accept the position of Vice President, that he was named President of the College.

Beginning in 1995, and throughout his entire tenure as President, Dr. Gilmore was preparing Adams State to become an independent institution. Under his direction, the school embarked on an ambitious building program constructing the first new building on its campus in more than 25 years. After having built a new theater and remodeled the School of business, Dr. Gilmore had every student residence hall wired for internet access. Due to his desire to see more students get the best education possible, he enlarged the endowment to almost four times its original size. As Dr. Gilmore retires, it is clear that he has left Adams State College a stronger institution than he found it.

Mr. Speaker, it is with honor that I recognize Dr. J. Thomas Gilmore before this body of Congress and this nation. His strong leadership has improved the quality of secondary as well as post-secondary education in the State of Colorado. Tom has truly been a valuable resource to the students and faculty of Adams State College. I thank him for his continued service to his community and the great State of Colorado.

#### TRIBUTE TO MATTHEW R. DUKSA, SR.

#### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Matthew R. Duksa, Sr. of Newington, Connecticut who died November 28, 2002 at the age of 80. Mr. Duksa was a longtime business owner in the First Congressional District and a valued member of the community.

Matt will long be remembered for his commitment to his business and community. He created the Borawski-Duksa funeral home in New Britain in 1949 and the Newington Memorial Funeral Home in Newington in 1952. He was president of both until his death, and held memberships in the Connecticut and National Funeral Director's Associations.

Throughout his life, Matt was intensely devoted to his family, to Connecticut, and to his country. He was a Newington volunteer firefighter for sixteen years, was director of the Newington volunteer ambulance, a member of Polish Businessmen and Falcons Nest #88, as well as a 3rd and 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 3884 in Newington.

Those who knew Matt, knew him for his integrity, contagious sense of humor, endless curiosity, love of life, and twinkling blue eyes. He will be remembered as respectful of his staff, putting the needs of others before himself, always doing his best, living life to its fullest, and showing love continuously. Matthew Duska will be greatly missed by his friends, family, and his community and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his life.

#### DAKOTA COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

#### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 13, 2003*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District. I am pleased that the Environmental Protection Agency selected the Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District as one of their Clean Water Partners for the 21st Century this year. This is a great honor and I am proud to support Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District's achievements.

The Dakota County Soil and Water Conservation District helps local landowners protect Minnesota's natural resources. Their assistance has been critical in controlling erosion near our lakes and rivers. They have also played a valuable role in helping integrate ecological and environmental considerations into all phases of urban planning, design and construction. Their assistance helps reduce contaminated runoff and introduces the use of wetlands and other natural processes to protect our water resources.

The EPA's Clean Water Partners for the 21st Century program recognizes these extraordinary efforts. This award is presented to